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1915

The Glory of the Garden

ARTHUR
COWEE

MEADOWVALE
FARMS

BERLIN
NEW YORK



• PEACE •

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Especially fine highways permit comfortable motoring through our section from the cities mentioned and from the Berkshire summer resorts.

The Glory of the Garden

The Modern Gladiolus



As selected and grown by

ARTHUR COWEE

Meadowvale Farms

BERLIN, RENSSELAER COUNTY, NEW YORK

The Garden of My Heart

By W. B. Thornton

THREADING her way among her flowers, as a queen among her subjects, loving and beloved, a dear old lady led me to a corner of her little kingdom. "I love it all," said she, with an all-inclusive sweep of the trowel in her hand, "but this, this little corner here, is the 'garden of my heart'."

And I, looking down into the sweet, old-fashioned flower-face, understood. To the gentle mistress this little garden within a garden was as a Holy of Holies. The appeal of the plants

growing there was to the heart rather than to the eye; sometimes to both, but always to the heart. Each was a living expression of sentiment. Pansies? Of course. And bright-faced little Johnny-jump-ups, phlox, sweet-smelling lavender, old-fashioned pinks, heliotrope, mignonette, sweet william, showy tiger lilies, and many another familiar in the gardens of long ago.

I have said that I understood. So I did at first. But when presently we came to a clump of the most glorious Gladioli, I must confess that, for the moment, a doubt crept into my mind. Why should these living embodiments of the spirit of today be given the place of honor among those whose breath was the very atmosphere of another and gentler age? And why should the gentle mistress of the garden linger above these with the love-light in her eyes, and a caress in her touch of them such as she bestowed upon none other?

Perhaps she read the puzzled wonder in my face. "You do not quite understand why these have a place in an old-fashioned garden. You think them out of place. Now own up; do you not?"

I was forced to admit that at first it did seem so. "But it isn't just an old-fashioned garden," she replied quickly. "I told you that it is the 'garden of my heart,' and that is very different. It is the garden where I grow those plants which I love best, many of them for the sentiment of associations with the long ago, but others for the character they possess. Plants are like human beings, you know. Each has an individuality. They win us to them or repel us by virtue of what they are. In my garden at large are many flowers which I admire for their beauty of form or color, but here are only those which I love, and of them all I love none more than the Gladioli. The best part of it is, they have fairly won their right to a place here. Let me tell you how they won their way into the 'garden of my heart.'"



Peace (see page 11)

"I had long grown the old-fashioned Gladioli in common with other old favorites, but it wasn't until some few years ago that my attention was called to the newer types of this flower. Then a friend gave me a few bulbs, saying that they were 'Cowee stock.' This meant nothing to me then, and I confess that I was just a wee bit amused at what seemed to me over-enthusiasm on the part of my friend. For some reason I did not get the bulbs until late, and by that time my flower-beds were so filled that there was no choice of location. It was a case of put them where I could, and it happened that the only available place was anything but suited to Gladiolus requirements.

"And as if this were not enough, the poor things were sadly neglected. It was an unusually hot, dry summer, and they were not watered as they should have been, and would have been had I taken more interest in them. Despite this, they threw up their strong, clean flags bravely, and throve when plants on which I lavished care and attention were weakly, spindling things. Then they bloomed, and from the moment of my first glimpse of the glorious blossoms I knew that never more would I deem my garden complete without them.

"But even then it was with admiration rather than love that I regarded them. They seemed to me almost too showy; but, as I watched spike after spike unfold, each different from the others, they challenged and held my interest as no other flowers in all my garden could. I began to wonder what they would have been like had they had a fair chance.

"The next year they did have, and great was my reward, for they were really 'the glory of the garden.' They asked so little and they gave so much. I began to love them; I could not help it. They were magnificent without coarseness, brilliant without boldness; and in variety of blending hues they were incomparably beyond all other flowers, save those rare exotics, the tropical orchids.

"So they won a place in the 'garden of my heart,' and as I grew to know them better I loved them more, until at last they fairly won for themselves the place of honor, as you see them now. And so, if fortune should deny me my beautiful garden, but should vouchsafe me just one wee corner where the sun shines, my Gladioli would have it, and it would be more than ever the 'garden of my heart'!"

Ever since that walk and talk with the gentle mistress of that rare garden, I have never seen a Gladiolus without thinking of her quaint distinction between those plants which appeal to the heart and those which make their appeal wholly to the eye. And so it has come about that I, too, have a "garden of my heart," and the chief joy of it through all the summer is the glorious Gladioli growing there.

Only this last summer I planted two rows of Cowee Gladioli bulbs in soil that I felt was far too sandy and



Faust—a deep, velvety crimson flower (see page 10)

light for them to do their best, and in a situation which in the morning was shaded,—not at all ideal. The early part of the summer was dry, and though I watered freely, it could at best be but little more than a wetting of the surface. Where less sturdy plants would have been but sickly, these thrived. Seemingly they possessed within themselves the vigor which they could not draw from the surrounding soil.

It was with almost a feeling of doubt that I watched for the flower-stalks to show. In due time they appeared, and with almost visible growth lengthened day by day, until, lacking the firm root-hold that a slightly stiffer soil would have afforded them, I was forced to stake them. Day by day I watched the buds grow and swell, until the glory within could no longer be contained by the green calyx of the lowermost bud, and I caught the first glimpse of rolled petals of exquisite coloring and richness.

My personal experience in the growing of modern Gladioli is confined to this back-yard garden, but I have been privileged to see these truly royal flowers growing in Meadowvale Farms, at Berlin, New York, the scene of their largest and best development, and the home whence many of the choicest varieties have sprung. I went there with the expectation of seeing a wonderful display, nor was I disappointed. Pen cannot describe nor brush paint the glory of those fields during the height of the blooming season. I expected to see beautiful flowers, even wonderful flowers, but also I expected to find these "exhibition" flowers, if you please, growing under conditions such as would be wholly impossible in the average garden.

Imagine my surprise when I found them growing like any common field crop—like potatoes or onions. No gently nurtured products of the skilled gardener's pampering care these, but stout yeomen of the plant-world, asking no favors and needing none.

And such flowers! Great spikes of glorious bloom, so heavy that one marveled that they were not prostrated by their own weight! But they were not—not one. And, as I looked, I understood in some measure the pride in the master's voice as he said:

"See how strong they are. They need no stakes. Even after a rain, when they are thrice heavy with water, they will no more than bend beneath the load. You think these great flower-spikes are wonderful for their size and beauty. They are, but to my way of thinking the plants which give them birth and then support them are just as wonderful. A beautiful blossom is not all that is to be desired in a plant. It must have sturdiness, strength, hardiness to meet unfavorable conditions and still do its best. The weak plant will never perpetuate the perfect flower in its descendants.

"No one rejoices more than I in the discovery of a new variety of exceptional beauty in form, size and color; but when such are discovered among the seedlings in my fields, and I assure you that this is of daily occurrence during the blooming season, they are not, as you may imagine, at once assured of a name and place in my catalogue. They must first prove that they are not merely beautiful, but that they possess the virile strength to produce healthy, vigorous plants; and more than this, bulbs which will in turn reproduce



Gladioli are superb for a garden border

all that is admirable in the parent plant. If they develop a decided weakness of any kind they are wholly destroyed, and their kind becomes no more.

"But if, on the other hand, their defects are trivial, such as only the expert would perceive, they go into my collections of unnamed varieties, all of which are of unquestioned quality and worthy of a place in any garden. When a variety is deemed worthy of a name and place in my catalogue, this fact alone is a guarantee that it is as nearly perfect of its kind as can be produced, and that the amateur, in whose hands the bulbs are placed, can and will have results equal to my own."

I thought of my own little garden, with its far from ideal conditions, and the joyous surprise that my Gladioli had given me there. I looked across those great fields, where color ran riot with none to see save the few who chanced to pass that way, and suddenly I understood. Mr. Cowee is not a grower of flowers, but a grower of *bulbs* that others may grow the flowers. To him the object of supreme importance, the thing on which his thought is constantly fixed, is beneath the surface, not above the ground; he knows that if the former is what it should be, the latter cannot be otherwise.

In that light, the brown-husked bulbs took on a new dignity and importance. We are prone to say of human characteristics, and of certain traits in animals, "it is in the blood." So it is. In like measure it is "in the bulb" of the Gladiolus. As surely as blood will tell, the bulb will tell. Soil and surroundings are important; but of greater importance is the quality of the bulb itself. A highly bred Gladiolus will show its quality despite untoward conditions. It is this power within itself to make the most of its environment that makes it the "Glory of the Garden," and gives it, too, a place in the "Garden of the Heart."

How to Grow and Care for the Gladiolus

THE Gladiolus will grow and bloom in almost any kind of soil, if only it can have full exposure to the sun. It requires no "fussing" over. It is singularly free from disease or insect pests. It will stand more dry weather than most flowers. It will even survive outright neglect, returning good for evil by its wonderful bloom.

At the same time, no plant responds more quickly or satisfactorily to good treatment. It likes best a rich, sandy loam. If your soil is heavy or stiff, work in a liberal amount of sand. If it is very light and sandy, spade in a liberal amount of well-rotted manure in the fall. Best results are obtained by preparing the beds in the fall. This is especially true when thoroughly rotted manure is not to be obtained and fresh manure must be used. By spring it is decomposed, and the ground in the very best of condition. Fall-turned sod makes an excellent foundation. If not fall-prepared, the land should be given a liberal dressing of manure or commercial fertilizer, and this spaded in to a depth of 15 inches.



Grouping of Gladioli in a garden border

With a well-prepared bed in a sunny exposure the measure of your success with Gladioli rests wholly in the quality of your bulbs. I have found by experience that a great many people fail to understand the vital importance of these brown-husked treasure boxes, in which are locked the plants for which they have made such careful preparation. To them bulbs are just "bulbs," either large or small as the case may be, and the larger bulbs are necessarily the best. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Small bulbs, properly grown, cured and stored, will often throw up plants and flowers twice the size of large bulbs which have been poorly grown and improperly cared for. Hence the necessity of securing your bulbs from a dealer who

can and will guarantee them to be strictly first-class. No matter from whom you get them, if they are not firm and heavy, send them back. Soft, light bulbs will never make strong plants. The best of soil is useless unless the bulbs put in it have within themselves the vigor to make the most of it.

Growing Gladiolus bulbs is my business. The glorious flowers which bring a constant stream of visitors to Meadowvale Farms from long distances every summer are merely a by-product. My whole thought and attention is concentrated on growing the bulbs, to the end that my customers may grow just as fine flowers as I can. When the bulbs are harvested, they are rigidly inspected, and every one which shows the least sign of weakness is thrown out.

In the same careful way they are stored where they will be neither too dry nor too damp to affect their vitality in any way.

With your bed prepared, and sure of the quality of your bulbs, the next step is the planting. In the latitude of northern New York this may be any time from the middle of April to the middle of May, whenever the frost is wholly out of the ground. Farther south earlier planting is advisable. For succession of bloom, bulbs may be set at intervals up to the 15th of June. The smaller bulbs should be set 2 inches deep, and the very large ones twice that depth.

In planting small beds I have found it an excellent plan to remove the soil to the required depth, lay down an inch of sand over the exposed surface, set the bulbs at proper intervals, pointed side up, replace the soil and firm down thoroughly. Mass effects are best obtained in round, oblong or square beds. For cutting purposes plant in single rows, 4 inches apart in the row, and rows 12 inches apart, or in double rows 18 inches apart.

A succession of bloom from the middle of July until frost may be obtained by planting early and late varieties together, and also by setting the first bulbs 8 inches apart in the row and two or three weeks later making a new planting between these. Gladioli are also very effective in clumps and among other plants in the herbaceous border. When used in this way, set the bulbs 4 to 6 inches apart each way.

See that the plants have plenty of water when they first appear above ground and later when the flower-spikes begin to show color. Keep free from weeds. If this is done they will require no other care. However, an occasional stirring of the soil around them will be an



War—a deep blood-red Gladiolus

advantage, as it tends to keep the top-soil finely pulverized, forming a dust mulch which helps to retain moisture.

After the blooming season is over the bulbs should be allowed to ripen. It is not necessary, however, to wait for the plants to die before harvesting. They should be lifted carefully, shaken free of earth and allowed to dry in the sun for a day or two. Then cut the stalks off close to the bulbs, put the latter in open boxes or shallow baskets, and store in a cool, dry place. Through the winter examine them occasionally to see that they are not becoming too dry or absorbing too much moisture.

The Best of All Cut-Flowers

FOR cutting purposes I know of no other flower to compare with the Gladiolus. Beautiful as it is in the garden, it is even more beautiful when cut and tastefully arranged for interior decoration. Cut when the first bud shows color, and given fresh water daily, it will open every bud to the last one, and this will be as beautiful as the first.

The stalks should be cut well down toward the base and then placed in tall vases filled with clear water. No charcoal or other substance should be used for purifying the water, as the Gladiolus will not foul it as some flowers do. Change the water daily, at the same time cutting a small piece from the stems. This should be done on a slant as then the water has a freer passage up the stems. As the lower flowers wither they should be removed, which is easily done by a gentle pull. As the lower buds always open first, the symmetry of the spike is preserved to the last. The result is a succession of fresh flowers every day for a week and even longer from the same spikes.

There is no odor to offend those to whom such may be offensive, no pathetic drooping. They maintain their sturdy strength of stalk and flower to the very last. In the sick-room they are a constant delight. For the banquet-hall they are unsurpassed. The wonderful range of their tints is the joy of the decorator, for they afford just the right tones to harmonize with any color scheme. And then their very form lends itself to decorative effects.

Few flowers can be sent long distances to such advantage. Up to 500 miles I send them without any packing whatever, simply standing them upright in baskets. Of course, they are almost wholly in the bud, but even the few flowers that may be open regain their freshness as soon as placed in water.

So it seems to me that for both out-of-doors and indoors the Gladiolus is truly the flower of flowers, the flower superb. If you have never grown it, I hope you will this season if only out of curiosity. If you do, I feel sure that your garden never will be without it in the future.

About six or seven years ago I purchased a supply of your bulbs. They have been prize-winners ever since, only once taking second. This season they were superb. I wish to make further additions to the collection.—Mrs. W. F. M., Michigan, October 17, 1914.

The bulbs of Peace I purchased from you for my place in New Hampshire bloomed beautifully. They were planted about June 1, and the first one was in bloom a few days before September 1. The plants were very robust, with foliage perfect to the very tips. Individual flowers were $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches across. They attracted a great deal of attention.—E. P. H., Maryland, October 16, 1914.



Dawn (see page 9)

Cowee's Collections of the Best Gladioli

FEW flowers, if any, show the infinite variety in colors and markings possessed by the Gladioli. There is literally no end to them. For this reason it is impossible to list more than a comparatively few of the very best, and the descriptions of these must be brief and wholly inadequate. I am aware that they furnish an insufficient guide to the one not already familiar with the named varieties. For this reason, and also to introduce a number of unlisted varieties of real worth, I have prepared several collections to meet the requirements of those whose space is limited, and who therefore want only the very choicest, and of those who desire to plant in large quantities for mass effect in color. These collections represent years of study and selection. I have no hesitancy in saying that you will be absolutely satisfied with any of these collections which you may select. They represent what, in my opinion, is typical and best of the various classes of this flower.

Special attention is called to my collections in color sections for mass planting or for grouping where specific color effects are desired. The Gold Medal Collection is made up entirely of named varieties of Groff's hybrids, and in the selection of these only the very best in point of size, color and type of flower and in strength of plant have been considered. The Silver Trophy Strain is also of Groff's hybrids, but of seedlings instead of named varieties. As in the Gold Medal collection, these are grouped in color sections and are wonderfully beautiful. I most heartily recommend them.

To my already large list of collections I have added still another, the "Glory of the Garden Collection," which embraces many varieties not included in the other collections. I have spent many hours in the fields selecting the sorts that are worthy of becoming a part of this new collection, and I consider that this assortment embraces the very cream of all the Gladioli grown at Meadowvale Farms.

To those having little or no acquaintance with the modern Gladiolus I suggest a trial of one of my collections of named varieties. In each of these groups the selections have been made with a view to harmony of colors, at the same time giving the customer a variety typical of the very best in its class. My one object is to make each collection the very best value for the price. I believe there is no better way to become acquainted with this superb flower and to see what it is when brought to its highest perfection than through one or more of these collections. Only clean, sound bulbs of large size, selected with the utmost care are sent out.



A planting of my Gladiolus Peace, at Minneapolis, in 1913

Cowee's Named Gladioli: The Cream of the World's Very Best Varieties

If wanted by mail, add 25 cents for packing and postage for either 25 or 50 bulbs. If by express, 25 bulbs at 100 rate, 250 at 1,000 rate

Afterglow. (Groff's.) Tall-growing. Flowers large; salmon-fawn, with violet center. 60 cts. each, \$6 per doz.

America. Soft lavender-pink, almost a tinted white. \$2 per 100, \$15 per 1,000.

Attraction. Dark, rich crimson, with white center and throat. \$6 per 100.

Augusta. Pure white, with blue anthers. \$2 per 100, \$15 per 1,000.

Baltimore. Light salmon, throat marked with deeper salmon on a cream-colored ground; tall spike and immense flowers; normally an erect grower. \$10 per 100.

Baron Hulot. Dark violet, bordering on blue. \$5 per 100.

Berkshire. Delicate shade of pink, lower petals penciled with dark pink, pointed with canary-yellow; large, well-opened flowers. A strong, upright grower. 20 cts. each, \$2 per doz.

Berlinia. Beautiful shell-pink, flaked with spots of darker shade. \$5 per doz.

Blue Jay. (Groff's.) Best blue offered. Vigorous tall, handsome. \$1 each, \$10 per doz.

Brenchleyensis. Brilliant vermilion - scarlet. \$1.50 per 100, \$10 per 1,000.

Butterfly. Shaded mauve; lower petals garnet, with spot of canary. \$15 per 100.

California. Deep lavender-pink, white throat markings. \$20 per 100.

Canary-Bird. Fine light yellow. \$7 per 100.

Ceres. White, spotted with purplish rose. \$2 per 100, \$18 per 1,000.

Claude Monnet. Violet, three lower petals marked with crimson. \$15 per 100.

Contrast. Intense scarlet, with white center; very striking. \$25 per 100.

Crackerjack. Dark red, throat spotted with yellow and maroon. \$15 per 100.

Cremilda. Delicately tinted pink on creamy white background. \$15 per 100.

Dawn. (Groff's.) Delicate salmon, shading to white inside, claret stain on inferior petals. 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz.

Daytona (1025). A beautiful mauve, shaded darker toward base of petals, the lower petals marked with peacock feathering; large flowers. The graceful bending makes it most desirable for decoration. 50 cts. each, \$5 per doz.

Dimmock, A. Delicate salmon, deepening in throat. \$20 per 100.

Eldorado. Deep, clear yellow, lower petals spotted maroon and black. \$15 per 100.

Emma Thursby. Carmine stripes on white ground. \$4 per 100.

Empress of India. Velvety dark red, with a purplish tinge; dwarf; early bloomer. \$6 per 100.

Eugene Scribe. Tender rose, blazed carmine-red. \$5 per 100.



One of the many "visiting days" when the Gladioli are in bloom

COWEE'S NAMED GLADIOLI, continued

Evolution. (Groff's.) Spike of vine-like character. Delicate rose, shaded darker. Valuable variety. 25 cts. each, \$2 per doz.

Excelsa. A pleasing shade of rose-pink relieved by a white blotch, lined rose. 50 cts. each, \$5 per doz.

Faust. Deep, velvety crimson, shading lighter on lower petals. 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz.

Feyen Perrin. Clear salmon, spotted strawberry-red. 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz.

General de Nansouty. Bluish purple, throat and lower petals marked with crimson and yellow. \$20 per 100.

Giant Pink. Dark pink, throat marked with dark red. \$5 per 100.

Glory. Flowers large; creamy white, crimson stripe in center of each petal; ends of petals ruffled. \$5 per 100.

George Paul. Crimson, stained yellow, spotted with purple. \$10 per 100.

Gil Blas. Salmon-rose, red blotch on primrose ground; early. \$10 per 100.

Glory of Holland. Pure white, with lavender anthers; blooms midseason. \$6 per 100.

Halley. Salmon-pink, creamy blotch, dark red stripes on lower petals; early. \$3 per 100.

I. S. Hendrickson. Mottled white and bright pink. \$6 per 100.

Independence. Light scarlet; very pleasing. \$3 per 100, \$25 per 1,000.

Intensity. Rich light scarlet, lower petals spotted with white. \$15 per 100.

Jean Dieulafoy. Creamy white, stained maroon. Flowers large; nearly all the buds on the long spikes will open after cutting. \$10 per 100.

Klondyke. Clear primrose-yellow, with blotch of crimson-maroon. \$6 per 100.

Lacordaire. Brilliant, flaming vermilion, self-colored; early. 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz.

Lady Howard de Walden. Clear yellow, flaked with carmine. Dwarf. \$10 per 100.

La Luna. (Groff's.) White, small brown markings in throat; extra fine. 50c. ea., \$5 per doz.

La Marck. Cherry, tinted with orange, blazed with red. \$4 per 100.

Lavandula. Large, well-opened flowers of a pale lavender shade, with a large cream blotch in throat, the petals sometimes become flecked with carmine. 60 cts. each, \$6 per doz.

Lily Lehmann. White, tinged rose; large flowers. Dwarf; early. \$6 per 100.

London. Large flowers of perfect form; delicate lilac-rose flush on white ground. A beautiful type. \$2 each.

May. White, finely flaked with rosy crimson. \$3 per 100, \$25 per 1,000.

Madam Lemoir. White tinted lemon; very early. \$2 per 100, \$15 per 1,000.

Madame Monneret. Delicate rose; late bloomer. \$3 per 100.

Meadowvale. Pure white, touched with crimson in throat; lower petals marked with faint pink. \$15 per 100.

Mephistopheles. Dark red, stained black and yellow. One of the most striking Gladioli in the list. \$15 per 100.

Mrs. Beecher. Rosy crimson, white throat marked and spotted. \$6 per 100.

Mrs. Francis King. A pleasing light scarlet; flowers large, well expanded; tall, straight spike. \$2.50 per 100.

1900. Rich red, with white spots. \$2.50 per 100, \$20 per 1,000.

Mrs. Frank Pendleton, Jr. Large flowers; delicate salmon-pink, with blood-red blotch in throat. 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz.

Negerfurst. Very dark, velvety red, with black spots, flamed with white and flaked lilac-rose. 60c. each, \$6 per doz.



"Glory of the Garden" Collection (see page 13)

COWEE'S NAMED GLADIOLI, continued

Niagara. Magnificent, large flowers; soft prim-rose-yellow, tinged rose-pink in the throat and penciled with carmine. 75c. per doz., \$6 per 100.

Pacha. Nasturtium-orange, throat spotted red on sulphur ground. \$10 per 100.

Pactole. Yellow, tinged with rose at edges, maroon blotch. \$8 per 100.

Panama. A seedling of America, resembling the parent variety except that it is a much deeper pink. 15 cts. each, \$1.50 per doz.

Papilio Rose. A very charming variety and a hybrid of the species *Papilio major*. It is practically one color—a pale rose-pink, but a zone of creamy white gives a blotch effect on the inferior petals of the original body-color. 50 cts. each, \$5 per doz.

Peace. This is one of the famous Groff hybrids, and I believe it is one of the grandest varieties ever introduced. It is the nearest approach to a clear, pure white, and on this account was given the name "Peace." The flowers are unusually large, and borne on a strong, upright spike; they are almost pure white, with a delicate lilac feathering on the inferior petals. For cutting, this variety is unsurpassed, as the flowers keep well, and if kept in water, the buds will open the entire length of the spike. Rich green foliage. Fine, selected bulbs, \$1 per doz., \$6 per 100. (See illustration page 2.)

Peachblow. Attractive flower of a peach-blossom-pink, lined violet. 30c. each, \$3 per doz.

Philadelphia. Dark pink, ends of petals suffused with white. \$15 per 100.

Princps. Rich crimson, with white blotches. \$5 per 100.

Princess Altieri. White, shaded with carmine. \$15 per 100.

Prophetesse. Pearly white, with crimson throat; early. \$5 per 100.

Rochester White. A pure white variety, with well-opened, large flowers; both anthers and pollen are also white. Plant averages 3 feet in height. 25 cts. each, \$2.50 per doz.

Rosella. Light rose, stained purple and white. \$20 per 100.

Rutland (101 plus). Practically one color—a deep claret, the lower petals marked with a small yellow line. \$5 per 100.

Salem. Salmon-pink, maroon blotches. \$4 per 100.

Scarsdale. Pink-lavender, shaded dark rose. \$10 per 100.

Scribe. Rose, tinted white and striped with carmine. \$8 per 100.

Senator Volland. Blue, dark violet blotch with a yellow stain, striped blue. \$15 per 100.

Shakespeare. White, suffused carmine-rose, rosy blotch. \$6 per 100, \$50 per 1,000.

Silver Star. Large, white flowers, flecked with pale lilac, and are of remarkable substance; a vigorous, strong grower. \$1 each, \$9 per doz.

Snowbank. White, red stain at base of petals. \$5 per 100.

Snowbird. An exceptionally pure white, with pale lilac lines on the inferior petals. 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz.

Sulphur King. Clear sulphur-yellow. \$15 per 100.

Taconic. Pink, marked with deep crimson and thin stripe of pale yellow. \$10 per 100.

Victory. Best yellow. \$5 per 100.

Vivid. Plant is normally erect and of good constitution; the flower is round and well placed on the spike; rich, velvety purple. 15 cts. each, \$1.50 per doz.

War. (Groff's.) Deep blood-red, shaded crimson-black. \$1 each, \$10 per doz.

White Cloud. Pure white; branching. \$10 per 100.

Witch. Mottled red, inferior petals stained white with vein of old gold. \$10 per 100.



Three spikes from my Silver Trophy Strain (see page 15)

Cowee's Superb Collections of the World's Best Named Gladioli

THESE collections are my conception of what is most typical and best of the various classes of this flower. I have yet to find varieties which can surpass those named in the different groups. My one object has been to make each collection the very best value for the price. All my bulbs are selected with the utmost care—none but clean, sound bulbs go out from Meadowvale Farms.



Intensity Gladiolus (see page 10)

Everybody's Introductory Collection

I have called the Gladiolus "Everybody's Flower." I want everybody to know it for what it is. In making "Everybody's Introductory Collection," I have selected twelve named varieties, which I believe will be fairly typical of the different classes of Gladioli. I have made many splendid offers in the past, but I think this one is by far the best offer of Gladioli ever made in America. Postpaid, one bulb of each, 75 cts.

America. Lavender-pink.
Attraction. Crimson; white throat.
Canary-Bird. Light yellow.
Claude Monnet. Violet and crimson.
Cracker Jack. Dark red, throat spotted.
Emma Thursby. White, striped carmine.
Independence. Light scarlet.
Klondyke. Primrose-yellow.
La Marck. Cherry, with orange tint.
Madame Lemonier. White, with lemon tinge.
1900. Red, spotted white.
White Cloud. Pure white.

Cowee's Gold Medal Collection

Groff's Extra-Select Gladioli

(See illustration, page 15)

In the preparation of this collection over 600 named varieties were discarded. Every desirable section is represented—Gandavensis, Lemoine, Nanceianus, Blues and New Hybrids. The flowers are of largest size in their respective types, and plants of great vigor and vitality. No better value could be desired. The Gold Medal Collection is offered in lots of 25, 50, 75 and 100 bulbs or upwards. Every collection is separately prepared, and in orders of 1,000 or more few duplicates will be found.

Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$3.25; or 50 bulbs \$6.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$12. If by express, 25 at 100 rate.

The Gold Medal Collection in Color Sections

These are especially select collections of new hybrids, prepared from the cream of the world's named introductions: Gandavensis, Lemoine, Nanceianus. In making up these collections, several hundred varieties, many possessed of great merit, were discarded. Customers who have purchased this collection have been highly pleased. *If by express, 25 at 100 rate.*

1. **Selected New Dark Hybrids.** All shades and combinations of red, scarlet and crimson. Quality the very highest. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$2.75, or 50 bulbs \$5.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$10.
2. **Selected New White, Light and Yellow Hybrids.** No equal value offered elsewhere or otherwise obtainable. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$3.25, or 50 bulbs \$6.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$12.
3. **Selected New Blue Hybrids.** Not offered elsewhere in the world (no smoky or slate-blues). Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$4, or 50 bulbs \$7.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$15.

Glory of the Garden Collection

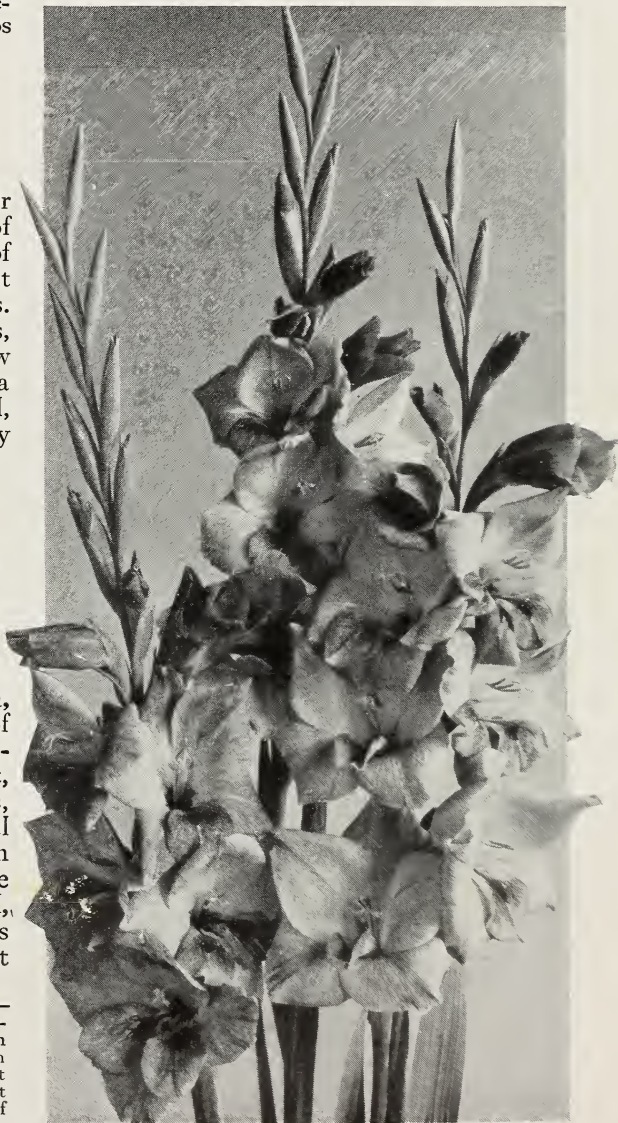
This is an entirely new collection offered for the first time last year. It represents years of selection from the best among thousands of hybrids. The varieties offered are of the most advanced type of the perfected Gladiolus. They are distinct from my other collections, with fully as wide a range in colors. New developments in brilliant hues, worthy of a place in the choicest collections. By mail, 25 bulbs \$6.50, postpaid; \$25 per 100, by express collect. (See illustration, page 10.)

Cowee's World's Fair Collection

Groff's New and Rare Gladioli

Expensive named varieties have been selected for this collection. It includes many high-class novelties of recent introduction, and the cream of high-quality Gladioli of extra-choice type. The flowers are of exceptional size and the shades are of red, scarlet, crimson, cerise, yellow, blue and light colors, all of the purest quality. I have given special attention to growing these varieties, and I am sure you will be pleased with the size of the bulbs and the strength of the plants. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$5.25, or 50 bulbs \$10.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$20. If by express, 25 at 100 rate.

The Gladioli I bought this spring have been very satisfactory. When I received the bulbs I was disappointed in their size and, if your catalogue had not warned me, I am sure I would have said "stung." I gave the bulbs the best possible treatment and followed instructions. I have just returned from New York where I saw a windowful of exhibition Gladioli. These blooms were inferior to mine in every way.—W. H. S., New Jersey, August 21, 1914.



Some of Groff's Hybrids in my Silver Trophy Strain

Cowee's Three-Dollar Collection

For my friends who wish to try a half-dozen of the latest novelties I have selected these as representing the very best of the recent introductions. I can tell you what colors appear in the flowers, but you cannot know their marvelous beauty until you have seen them blooming in your garden. One bulb of each, postpaid, for \$3.

Afterglow. Salmon-fawn, with violet center.

Excelsa. Rose-pink, blotched with white and lined with rose.

Lacordaire. Bright, glowing scarlet-vermilion.

Daytona. Mauve, shading darker toward base of petals.

Lavendula. Pale lavender, cream blotch in throat.

Peachblow. Peach-blossom-pink.

Cowee's Imperial Two-Dollar Collection

For this collection I have selected six of the finest kinds of new Gladioli. One extra-choice bulb of each of these new introductions will be sent by mail, postpaid, for only \$2.

Peace. Grandest white known.

La Luna. Buds open as a pale yellow, passing to white when expanded. Throat is beautifully marked brown. Plant over 3 feet high.

Dawn. Strong, vigorous plant over 4 feet high. Flowers salmon, shading to white, claret stain on inferior petals.

Blue Jay. Best blue variety ever offered. The pronounced blue, relieved by white shading, strikingly resembles the coloring of the bird from which it is named. Plant vigorous, often 6 feet high. Flowers large.

Victory. Without doubt this is the best yellow. Flowers of medium size, of delicate sulphur-yellow and well arranged on a straight spike.

Faust. Deep, velvety crimson flowers of large size, arranged on a spike about 4 feet high. The two lower petals are suffused with white.

Cowee's Novelty Dollar Collection

Composed of six fine sorts, selected to cover a rich range of color. For \$1 I will send, postpaid, one fine bulb of each of the following named varieties:

Baltimore. Light salmon, with deep salmon throat.

California. Deep lavender-pink, throat marked with white.

Eldorado. Clear yellow, spotted maroon and black.

General de Nansouty. Bluish purple, marked crimson and lemon-yellow.

Snowbird. Pure white, marked with pale lilac on the inferior petals.

Taconic. Bright pink, flecked and striped; lower petals crimson, shading into lemon-yellow.



Ten named Gladioli for 50 cents (see page 15)

Cowee's Superb Dollar Collection

For only \$1 I will mail, postpaid, one strong, blooming bulb of each of these six Gladioli:

Baron Hulot. Dark violet or blue.

Papilio Rose. Pale rose-pink, with a zone of creamy white.

Jean Dieulafoy. Creamy white, lower petals stained maroon.

Mephistopheles. Flowers large; dark red, stained with black and yellow.

Rosella. Beautiful light rose, stained purple and white.

Scarsdale. Pink-lavender.

Ten Named Gladioli for Fifty Cents

Each variety is of distinct merit, and very desirable. Because of the extremely low price, I can allow no changes. For 50 cts. I will send, postpaid, one good bulb of each of the ten following varieties:

Augusta. White, with blue anthers.

Senator Volland. Blue, dark violet blotch with yellow stain.

Brenchleyensis. Brilliant vermilion-scarlet.

Eugene Scribe. Tender rose, blazed carmine-red.

Gil Blas. Salmon-rose, with red blotch on primrose. Early.

George Paul. Deep crimson, slightly stained yellow, spotted with purple.

Prophetesse. Pearly white, with crimson throat.

May. White, finely flaked rosy crimson.

Mrs. Beecher. Rosy crimson, with white throat.

Snowbank. Pure white, with dot of red at base of petals.

Silver Trophy Strain

Groff's World's Best New Hybrid Seedlings

Only large, blooming bulbs are offered. In the three classifications as given in this list, you have an assortment of colors that will make a most charming grouping in any part of your garden.

If by express, 25 at 100 rate

1. **Newest Reds, Scarlets and Crimson.** The world's commercial strains offer few equal to and none better than these. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1, or 50 bulbs \$1.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$3.

2. **New White, Light and Yellow.** All shades of white, cream and yellow in many combinations, relieved by stains and blotches of rich colors. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1.25, or 50 bulbs \$2.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs, \$4.

3. **Rare Blues in Clematis, Lilac and Heliotrope Shades.** New hybrids of Papilio major. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1.50, or 50 bulbs \$2.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$6.



Cowee's "Gold Medal" Collection (see page 12)

Cowee's Midway Collection

This collection is prepared from all sections in new named varieties of European origin, which, until the introduction of the Gold Medal and Silver Trophy strains, led the world; also a few of the earlier introductions of Groff's hybrids.

Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1.50, or 50 bulbs \$2.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$5. If by express, 25 at 100 rate.

Special and Miscellaneous Mixtures

No orders accepted for less than 25 bulbs. If by express, 25 at 100 rate, 250 at 1,000 rate

COWEE'S "NIAGARA STRAIN." Contains named white, light yellow and variegated American hybrids and named Childsi. Postpaid, 25 bulbs 90 cts., 50 bulbs \$1.50. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$2.50.

GROFF'S HYBRID SEEDLINGS. Much stock which never originated with Mr. Groff is offered as his hybrids by unscrupulous dealers. Meadowvale-grown bulbs are the pure Groff strain. Large, blooming bulbs, \$1.50 per 100, \$12 per 1,000; second-size bulbs, \$1 per 100, \$9 per 1,000; small bulbs, 60 cts. per 100, \$5 per 1,000.

MEADOWVALE MIXTURE. This includes the largest number of magnificent varieties of any popular mixture. First size, \$12 per 1,000; second size, \$9 per 1,000.

LEMOINE HYBRIDS. Includes hundreds of the more modern colors and many novelties. Extra-fine mixed, \$15 per 1,000; fine mixed, \$10 per 1,000.

NANCEIANUS. Good variety in colors. \$2.50 per 100, \$20 per 1,000.

CHILDSI. Choice selections. \$2.50 per 100, \$20 per 1,000.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS. \$8 per 100, \$60 per 1,000.

EXTRA PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS. (Groff's.) These new hybrids cover the full range of sections known as Concolor, Erecta, Ligneata and Maculata, in addition to many intermediate variations. The bulbs are superior in size and blooming qualities. \$15 per 100.

Mixtures to Color

	Per 1,000		Per 1,000
Extra white and light shades.....	\$20 00	Scarlet and red shades.....	\$12 00
White and light shades.....	15 00	Extra orange and yellow shades.....	50 00
Extra pink and rose shades.....	20 00	Orange and yellow shades.....	40 00
Pink and rose shades.....	15 00	Striped and variegated.....	18 00
Extra scarlet and red shades.....	15 00	Botanical hybrids.....	\$2 per 100.. 15 00

If by mail, add 25 cents for packing and postage if either 25 or 50 are desired. If by express, 25 at 100 rate, 250 at 1,000 rate

A box of Gladioli bulbs sent to a friend makes a present that will be a pleasure for the whole summer. Send the order, with the proper address, and I will ship the bulbs to arrive at the desired time.

Just How to Order

Order early. This is important from your standpoint and mine. By so doing you insure getting just what you want, whereas late orders cannot always be properly executed, especially those received on the very edge of the planting season. At that time I may be out of certain choice varieties, perhaps the very ones you want most. *I make no substitutions* unless so instructed. Bulbs for greenhouse forcing are ready for shipping in the late fall as soon as thoroughly cured. To encourage large plantings, all prices quoted are practically wholesale, quality taken into consideration.

Upon orders for more than fifty bulbs by mail, remit 8 cents for each additional twenty-five bulbs to cover postage. Our mailing-size bulbs are much larger than those sent out by most growers, but still larger bulbs can be sent by express, and we advise having shipments made in this way wherever possible. We have a special rate, which is 20 per cent below the regular charge on merchandise.

Special Discount to Seedsmen and to those ordering in lots of 5,000 or more.

Remittances Must Accompany All Orders from unknown purchasers, and may be by post-office order, express order, New York draft, or cash by registered letter. Postage stamps accepted.

Carefully Sign Your Name, post office, county and state. Write clearly. Address all orders to

ARTHUR COWEE

PROPRIETOR MEADOWVALE FARMS

BERLIN, RENSSELAER COUNTY, N. Y.

The McFarland Publicity Service, Harrisburg, Pa.

MY friends are invited to visit Meadowvale Farms during August and early September when my Gladiolus fields are in full bloom. Visitors are always welcome and I am sure you will be amply repaid for including Berlin in your summer itinerary.

Many persons have availed themselves of the opportunity of motoring to my fields, and are now regular annual visitors.

